

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air "Stolen Honor" an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media monopoly.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. When I called to voice my concern about the airing of a show, the person taking the call at the local affiliate stated that the local station had ABSOLUTELY NO CONTROL regarding their stations programming regardless of concerns raised by local viewers. When large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more unbiased, thoughtful substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.